

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:  INVESTIGATION INTO THE GAS PROCUREMENT AND ALLOCATION PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES OF REGULATED PUBLIC UTILITIES	DOCKET NO. INU-00-6
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**ORDER GRANTING INTERVENTION**

(Issued April 17, 2001)

On December 28, 2000, the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate) filed an application requesting the Utilities Board (Board) commence or reopen an investigation into the regulated and non-regulated marketing activities of UtiliCorp United Inc. and its operating division, Peoples Natural Gas Company (Peoples), and order an independent audit of the regulated and non-regulated marketing activities of Peoples. On March 2001, the Board issued an order opening this docket, Docket No. INU-00-6, and requiring all rate-regulated gas utilities to respond to 11 questions concerning their gas purchasing procedures and practices. The responses are due May 1, 2001.

On April 5, 2001, Northern Natural Gas Company (Northern) filed a "Petition To Intervene" in this docket. Northern states that it is an interstate natural gas pipeline company that provides transportation service to rate-regulated public gas utilities and other customers in Iowa. Northern states that it has a direct and

substantial interest in the outcome of this docket because of its relationship with these companies and customers in Iowa. Northern requests intervention as a matter of right pursuant to 199 IAC 7.2(7)"d"(1) or, in the alternative, permissive intervention pursuant to 199 IAC 7.2(7)"d"(2).

The Board will grant Northern permissive intervention under the provisions of 199 IAC 7.2(7)"d"(2). The Board finds that Northern has a specific interest in this proceeding since it provides natural gas to rate-regulated gas utilities and customers in Iowa. The Board finds further that no other party will represent Northern's interest in this proceeding and the decision may affect Northern's interest in future proceedings.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

The petition to intervene filed on April 5, 2001, by Northern Natural Gas Company is granted pursuant to the provisions of 199 IAC 7.2(7)"d"(2).

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper  
Acting Executive Secretary

/s/ Diane Munns

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2001.